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and Courier

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Norwich, Friday, May 24, 1918.

CIRCULATION

1901, average	4,412
1905, average	5,925
May 18, 1918	9,900

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"Right is More Precious than Peace"

HELPING RUSSIA.

Much interest centers at the present time in the attitude which the Russians will take relative to the declaration of President Wilson that he stands for the aiding of Russia as well as France. What they can and should do and what they will do under the circumstances, knowing full well as they must that it is in the interest of the German empire to dominate that country, remains to be seen.

But following up the announcement of the president's attitude regarding Russia there is certainly reason for an early determination of the policy which should be pursued by the allied nations jointly in the extension of this aid. It is of as much importance to all the allied nations as it is to any one of them that protection should be given to Russia and to the far east. It would have been well if it could have been determined some months ago as to just what the mode of procedure should be that steps could have been well advanced by this time, but there should be no greater delay at this time than is required to get the allies to reach an understanding upon this matter.

All are convinced of the wisdom of helping Russia. There can be no dispute upon that point. It is simply a question now of what is the most advisable course to pursue under all the conditions which are known to exist. Russia is doubtless more inclined to look with approval upon any plan which may be decided upon than it was directly after the Brest-Litovsk peace was signed. It has had a chance to see its errors and if proper representation can be secured that country should be brought into the councils of the allies regarding the next move.

WAITING THE NEXT MOVE.

Just when and where the Germans are going to make their counter-attack of the drive on the western front is still uncertain. Ever since the allies blocked their advance they have been bringing up new forces, new guns and other necessary equipment. There is no evidence to support the idea that they have given up the idea of trying to accomplish their purpose. On the other hand their activity, with the reorganization of their depleted divisions and the training of other troops, makes it apparent that they are taking full advantage of the lull to prepare for greater operations.

On the other hand the allies are not losing any time. They are not only strengthening their defenses but they are harassing the enemy at many points and gaining ground which is bound to be of much advantage when the foe makes another try. They are also getting the benefit of time for the better distribution of their forces, while every hour increases the number of Americans who are being sent to France and front line positions for duty.

Magnificent service is being rendered by the allied aircraft at the present time. Not only are they causing consternation among the people of the German cities but they are doing much in finding out the location of the enemy concentrations and breaking them up. Time is thus working as greatly to the benefit of the allies as it is to the Germans and there is every reason for the confidence that they will be able to meet and break up the enemy thrust wherever it is attempted.

NO EMBARRASSMENT TO HUGHES

The prospects seem good that the idea of Judge Hughes that there should be but one investigation made regarding the airplane situation seems likely to be respected by the senate where a committee has been named to make by the president as a special assistant for the department of justice which indicates that he intends to cover the entire matter in a most thorough manner, that he plans upon making the hearings public so far as it is consistent with military secrets and that he intends to make a report which will be complete in all details regardless of what the finding may be.

ized that it would simply be causing confusion for a senate committee to endeavor to go over the same ground at the same time. There is no question but what the senate will have confidence in the Hughes investigation for being given a free hand there can be no question but what he will probe to the bottom and cover thoroughly the whole question.
That the senate committee will not attempt to embarrass him in this work is a wise decision. It would certainly be most unwise to persist in it especially following his appeal to the contrary. This will not mean that the senate committee will have nothing to do for it can look into the present day situation regarding aircraft production as much as it pleases without interfering with the larger investigation. Though it may result in no great accomplishments it will do no harm.

BEATING THE U-BOATS.

It is several weeks now since we have heard anything regarding the number of vessels which the German U-boats are sinking weekly. This is because of the change in the method of making announcements regarding the losses sustained. We are no longer informed regarding the number of vessels sunk but reports are given monthly of the tonnage which has been destroyed.
The first monthly report has been made and it has received no little study because of the keen interest that is being taken in the submarine activities and the efforts which are being put forth to overcome them. By the report for the month of April as made by the British admiralty the tonnage lost by that country was 220,709. At the same time the loss sustained by the allies of Great Britain and neutrals amounted to 84,392 tons, or a total of 305,102.

This may seem to represent a large loss but how greatly the situation has been improved is best shown by the comparison with the figures for the month of April last year when there were over 600,000 tons of British shipping alone sent to the bottom. This shows that in the year there has been a two-thirds drop in the British losses and a decrease by one-half in the losses which are being sustained by the belligerent nations fighting Germany and the neutrals. This gives pretty good evidence of the progress that is being made in the fight against the underwater boats, and when the improvement which is being shown in connection with the construction of vessels is considered it cannot help but be realized that a most gratifying change is taking place.

THE RAILROAD CHANGES.

There can be no surprise in the action of the director general of the railroads in relieving every president of a railroad in the country from duty as executive manager of his road. It is perfectly apparent that if the government is going to run the railroads efficiently must be secured. It is as necessary to have one head to this task as it is to have a president of each road but with the director general endeavoring to handle his job and the various presidents trying to serve, or not trying to serve, two masters, the government and the stockholders, at the same time, the situation was to say the least decidedly awkward and not likely to produce the results desired.

The situation therefore called for a change and the change has resulted in a clean sweep. That most of the presidents who have been relieved will be renamed as the representatives of the government for the directing of the operations of their roads is highly probable. They are highly trained men and necessary to the best service from their systems. The friction which has been encountered in the government operation of the roads will determine those who will not be retained. But friction is something which could not of course be tolerated and those who have proved to be an impediment must have realized that their powers were bound to be short lived. The transportation needs of the country at the present time are of vital importance. There must be as near a perfect organization as can be obtained and that lies in getting the directing force under one control and only one.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Anyone who dodges the Red Cross solicitor has no right to call himself an American.

When it comes to helping the Red Cross give ill it hurts and then wear a bandage if it is necessary.

Dillon hands the Sinn Feiners a right right on the shoulder when he declares their policy wrong, foolish and disastrous.

When the two kaisers announce four kings for the Russian provinces new better evidence could be wanted of stacking the cards.

The establishment of martial law in Bohemia makes it evident that those people are thoroughly disgusted with German ways.

Kerensky will be given a welcome here but it is useless to make an effort at trying to make him feel at home in this country.

The man on the corner says: Lack of recognition and even barbarous assaults with the lawn mower never discourage the dandelions.

Of course the establishment of the new mine field in the North sea will give Germany a new excuse for not sending out its big fleet.

The rivalry among the riveting squads gives promise of creating a greater interest this summer than the baseball scores. It's a healthy sign.

There can never be too much attention given to the running down of the least semblance of a German plot. Germany has no superior when it comes to intrigue.

When Mr. Creel says that he didn't mean to reflect upon congress, he is old enough to know that he should have thought of that before he spoke rather than afterwards.

Perhaps one of the best demonstrations of the fact that Ukraine is not furnishing what was expected of it in the way of food is the cutting down of the bread ration in Germany.

New England has received large orders for government work, which ought to mean the forwarding of sufficient fuel to this part of the country to see that they are filled without delay.

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guage) to the English. But, for me, there is an argument of some validity for its retention, namely, that, unless the German press here is abolished, both at present and for the future, what that press has to disseminate should be under the critical eye of experts in German who are not themselves German. Their perfect command of the language in all its shades would be the perfect antidote to the spreading of any Teutonic poison by means of the printed page. This poison has circulated freely, I think because there have not been enough accomplished American scholars to read and to announce the mischief that was being done by untrained journalists of the Teutonic breed. The most of us, finding the intricacies of construction in the evolution of a German sentence too much for us, would not volunteer our criticism while not modifying our condemnation. The element of viciousness can be left out of the reckoning entirely. The element of mischief carried to a monstrous degree forms a large part of it.

The students made bigger fools of themselves than they intended to, and the penalties should not be withheld. The fact is, however, that previous generations of students have done the same thing and yet lived to take dignified places in the American citizenry. Some of our representatives are fighting on the battlefields of France today. We are quite sure that the students themselves feel the full humiliation of their offensive conduct.

—New Haven Journal-Courier.

OTHER VIEW POINTS

The men are taking hold to help make surgical dressings in many places, and several casualties are reported among those that attempt to handle their wives' sharp scissors.—Meriden Journal.

STORIES OF THE WAR

The Naval Raid on Pola.

(By the Associated Press)

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GLEANNED FROM FOREIGN EXCHANGES

change, London. Nothing more clearly shows that both pronouncements were in common use.

The admission of the Local Government Board that the country needs 200,000 new dwellings suggests that at least a million and a quarter people are at present in the streets.

The position arises not merely from increase of population, but from the fact that railway and industrial developments have swept away very many homes. Formerly the railways were the great devourers of dwellings.

When first prospecting for terminal in London they laid claim to a quarter of the entire area of the City proper.

The threat was appalling. The population of St. Bartholomew's parish, Moorfields, was crowded into 500 houses, where the "aristocracy" were those able to rent two rooms. Yet the Great Eastern Railway proposed to demolish half these houses for a route to Finsbury, and the whole of which they sought to acquire. Over 50,000 people were threatened, by various schemes, and no provision made for them. Parliament interfered after thousands had been displaced, but the chief effect was to stimulate private compassion—that of Peabody and Waterlow in particular, and of philanthropic building companies which followed.

Two men plotted this war—the Kaiser and the late Archduke Francis Ferdinand. The Archduke was murdered, and his death was made the pretext for a world-wide conflagration. Now the man who committed the crime is at present in the hands of the law. The result of my system of philosophy will be, said Coleridge, to show that so far from the world being a noxious in petticoats, it is rather

tenant Commander Pellegrini, who adapted unusual means to the task of safeguarding the project. To divert attention he took service in the trenches on the Pave, and when ready to start gave out that he was going to visit his friends in the front line. The entrance of the channel was 400 yards across, with a long neck leading into the great harbor, in which lay Austria's fleet of battleships, cruisers and destroyers, circled by a terrace of land batteries.

In the obscurity the guard ship at the entrance was dimly visible swung to one side, the guards apparently asleep.

Final preparation now was made for a dash in the darkness. Commander Pellegrini and his companions put on rubber suits which could be discharged torpedoes at the big ship, then blow up their own craft, jump overboard and await capture or drowning. All realized that there was no chance of returning alive.

They encountered three successive lines of defence. First a guard ship, then a line of wooden buoys marking a cordon of mines and then a heavy steel net strung from bank to bank.

The escort waited nearly an hour when the silence was suddenly broken by two distinct explosions, the first ones followed by the sound of an alarm gun in the inner harbor.

Soon after two signals of particular lights slowly rose from the center of the harbor, indicating Commander Pellegrini had penetrated to the very heart of the fleet and was sending signals from the midst of it.

The first signal meant "Have torpedoes been exploded?" The second said "Don't mind us; we have no chance."

This last signal was the agreed emergency sign which was to be sent up in case there was no opportunity to give help. It is believed they blew up their craft and took to the water in accordance with the programme, as an explosive time bomb had been set to go off even if the craft was under water.

In the meantime the sky was vivid with searchlights and the land batteries were pouring a terrific fire on the escort. They clung to their work for a time and then left, with forty searchlights and countless batteries playing upon them.

Airplane swooped down, but was beaten off by a smaller fleet of Italian planes, three enemy machines falling into the water during the aerial battle.

No word has since been heard of Commander Pellegrini and his party. Their signal was definite that a ship had been hit and aerial photographs are expected soon to show their message. There is every reason to believe the four men are prisoners.

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